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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS<sup>1</sup>

### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

MR. PRESIDENT: The partiality of my colleagues has laid on me the pleasant duty of saying a few words by way of welcome to the convention of the Association of Southern Colleges and Universities.

Gentlemen, we most cordially welcome you because of what you *are*. Your names have long preceded you to this little Athens of ours. We have learned to admire you for learning and ability; to revere you for your many virtues. Having long heard of you with the hearing of the ear, our eyes now see you and rejoice.

We welcome you, gentlemen, because of your glorious work. Among the essential institutions of a civilized people, we reckon that the school holds an exalted place. Uniting and coöperating with the home, it is the function of the school to develop intellect and build character. Legislatures may enact laws and courts may apply them, but the school goes beyond both, and makes *men*. Makers of men—this is your sublime vocation. And for the sake of your work we bid you hearty welcome.

We welcome you as an Association of *Southern* Colleges and Universities. The name smacks of nothing narrow or sectional to our apprehension. We cherish all parts of our great country. From the lakes to the Gulf, from the Atlantic to—the Pacific, shall I say? Alas for these convenient phrases, they seem to require revision in the near future! It would not be very easy just now to indicate any boundaries along the lines of longitude. We have not learned conventional expressions touching our budding affection for Hawaii and Porto Rico. Some of us may possibly not be very eager at present to take to our fraternal embrace the Filipinos. But we are all right on the old, well-established continental lines. We feel an abiding and friendly interest in educational work everywhere. But there are conditions peculiar to the colleges and universities of the South which make it to be reasonable that they should associate for counsel and help. Harvard, with her millions of endowment; Chicago University, with her million-

<sup>1</sup> President Raymond's paper was printed in February SCHOOL REVIEW.

aires, cannot very well enter into the experiences of institutions having less than \$100,000 of income. What is a matter of simple volition with them would be an utter impossibility for us.

The University of Georgia bids you welcome to her campus and her halls. She offers you the best that she has. You will not expect to find here the splendid structures which may be seen amid the elms at New Haven or on the heights of the Hudson. The glory and the pride of this little university must of necessity be, like Cornelia's, in her children. And these are surely a joy and crown of which any mother might be proud.

We hope that you will be interested in our history, which begins almost exactly with the independence of the commonwealth. It was only ten months and eight days after the signatures had been affixed to the treaty of Paris that the General Assembly of Georgia set aside 40,000 acres of land in this beautiful wilderness for the endowment of a "seat of learning" to be known as the University of Georgia. The first log cabin in which five boys said their lessons in 1801 stood in the great forest within a few yards of the chair in which you now sit, Mr. President. It had a door in either side and a window in each end, with a chimney made, as I suppose, of sticks and clay. A few rods to the south you may see tomorrow morning "Old College," the first structure of brick erected in Georgia north of Augusta. The historian of the University, who is present with us this evening, records the fact that the bricks cost \$7.50 a thousand at a kiln five miles distant. Men knew very little of brickmaking on the frontiers of civilization. The black, soft mold which then lay, ankle deep, over all these hills probably concealed from them the fathomless beds of red clay which lay beneath. Iron nails were then costly luxuries, and the lime in yonder walls must be hauled all the way from Augusta over the "*trails*" that meandered through the boundless forests, and cost the "handsome figure," as the dealer would say, of \$10 a "cask"!! All of which goes to show how intense was the zeal of the Georgians of that day for their "seat of learning." Had their descendants retained that fiery ardor this little University might have vied with Princeton in her equipment.

Just below us on the slope leading down to the Oconee, whose murmur you can hear, was the "College spring," which seems to have determined the location of the aforesaid log cabin. It continues as of yore to send out a bold stream, but, alas! it is no longer fit for human use, for it forces its way into daylight from beneath an old building

now used, I think, as a stable. By degrees the town called "Athens" in allusion to the little school, as I suppose, grew up around the campus. It was a trading post for the Cherokees, who roamed the forests around it. Their venison and peltries were exchanged for the white man's guns and cutlery—doubtless, also, for his deadly "fire-water."

Thus the history of the University runs parallel with that of the commonwealth. When the second war with Great Britain checked the business of peaceful life, education suffered with the rest, and the doors of Franklin College had to be closed. And when the throes of the great Civil War shook the continent professors and students shouldered their muskets and marched away, many of them to return no more. But from the hour when those five Georgia boys sat at their Latin tasks in the log cabin to this day, this faithful school has been busy equipping and sending out successive classes to fill all places of trust and responsibility. Like the apostle to the Gentiles, she has abounded in labors amid penury and want. But, like him, she has persevered through good report and evil report, true ever to the purposes of her founders!

Mr. President and gentlemen of the association, we welcome you to our University, to our homes, and to our hearts.

W. E. BOGGS

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA